

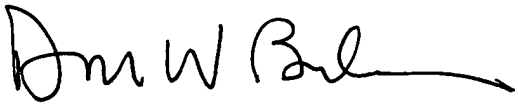
Remarks

In response to the species election requirement set forth in the Office Action dated December 2, 2003, the embodiment of a semiconductor device is elected and claims 59-71 read on the elected species.

New claims 72 and 73 have been added as linking claims so that all of the claims can be properly examined in the present application. Claims 72 and 73 read on the elected species. In addition, claim 72 includes the limitations of claims 43 and 44, and claim 73 includes the limitations of claim 56. Consequently, a search of the elected species will substantially overlap a search of the non-elected species. In view of the foregoing, request is made that the species election requirement be withdrawn and all of the claims be examined in the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

RENNER, OTTO, BOISSELLE & SKLAR, LLP

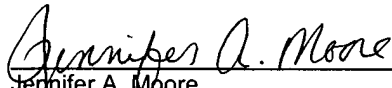
By 
Don W. Bulson, Reg. No. 28,192

1621 Euclid Avenue
Nineteenth Floor
Cleveland, Ohio 44115
(216) 621-1113

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper or thing referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Date: January 2, 2004


Jennifer A. Moore

R:\PRMS\PI\P0217\P0217USA.R05.wpd